[Mr. M. Govinda Pillai.]

28. *Rural Uplift.* The House will observe a new feature in this Budget, consisting in the setting apart of Rs 50,000 for being utilised for rural welfare work. Seven Village Panchayats, constituted under Act VII of 1100, have been in existence for some years; but the results have fallen short of expectations. It is therefore proposed to introduce a scheme to rehabilitate the Village Panchayats. The ideal is to have Village Panchayats in every pakuthy in every taluk. Government, however, propose next year to select one pakuthi in each taluk for the inauguration of rural welfare work. The most suitable villages will be selected for the purpose. All the nation-building departments will as far as possible be represented in the Panchayat and the Tahsildar of the taluk will be the Chairman. It is expected that the changes now proposed will have the desired effect and that the Panchayats will be enabled to undertake as many duties as possible according to the needs and conditions of the several villages. The idea underlying the scheme is that subsidy will be granted to those localities which are willing to supply labour or money towards schemes of immediate practical urgency and value to the rural parts—*e. g.* village roads, rural wells, local sanitation and conservancy and so on.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

29. Our expenditure on capital schemes next year is estimated at Rs. 54·25 lakhs. The provision relates mostly to schemes started in proceding years and now in progress. They are —

A. Non-productive works.

		Rs.
Water Supply schemes	...	5 lakhs
Drainage Schemes	...	6 ,,
Town Planning Schemes	...	2 ,,
Military Works	...	2 ,,
Miscellaneous	...	8·5 ,,
Total	...	24·5 lakhs

B.—Productive Schemes included under Debt Heads.

Pallivasal Hydro Electric Project	...	20·00 lakhs
Ceramic Factory	...	·50 ,,
Commercial Transport	...	1·75 ,,
Telephone Schemes	...	3·00 ,,
Other Electrical Schemes	...	2·50 ,,
Total	...	27·75 lakhs
Loan to the Cochin Harbour authorities towards the fourth stage works	...	2·00 ,,
Grand total	...	54 25 lakhs.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly